

**Volume 4  
Number 28  
April 2016**

## *Keeping In Touch*

The Emporia Friends of the Zoo's 32<sup>nd</sup> annual benefit auction was held in a new venue this year—the Anderson Building on the Lyon County Fairgrounds—and with the fantastic results of raising just over \$51,000.00. I would like to thank the auction committee, the Zoo staff, the underwriters, the sponsors, the donors of live and silent auction items, Ron Thomas (emcee), Paul Hancock (auctioneer), and the many generous bidders at the auction. It was a great way to start the year off as your new president.

This is going to be a big year for the David Traylor Zoo with the opening of a long awaited exhibit—Mission Madagascar. We are all anxiously awaiting the dedication and open house for this new exhibit. In addition, the zoo is having its AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) accreditation visit in June, which is always a stressful time for our staff, but due to their diligence and concern for the animal collection at the zoo I am sure that all will go well. This accreditation is sought after by many zoos, as it assures the safety and well-being of our zoological collection and the patrons and staff of the zoo. The zoo staff and supporters are proud of this accreditation.

I would encourage you and your family to visit the zoo often and enjoy one of Emporia's greatest assets. You can check out upcoming events at

[www.emporiazoo.org](http://www.emporiazoo.org).

---Duane Henrikson, DVM, EFOZ President

### **Upcoming Events**

Docent in the Zoo - April, May, June Sundays	1:00-2:30 pm
Party for the Planet – April 24	1:00-3:00 pm
Kidzoocation – May 7	10:00-11:00 am
Stroll & Show - June 3	7:00 pm
EFOZ Annual Open House – June 26	1:00 pm



Is  
ACCREDITED  
By

ASSOCIATION  
OF ZOOS &  
AQUARIUMS

and a



Participant





## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Hello Zoo Friends,

Spring is upon us and the recent rains we have received have been a blessing. I'm sure I am speaking for many as it will be a welcome sight to see the Zoo's inhabitants out scampering around in the greening grasses over the next few weeks and for others, it may be the trees budding and the flowers blooming. Either way, the temperatures will be warming and the beauty of nature will prevail.

The EFOZ board recently held their annual Round-up auction at the Anderson Building on the Lyon County Fairgrounds. A BIG thank you goes out to everyone who joined us or donated to the Zoo. We had record attendance and raised over \$51,000!! Every dollar raised will help to meet EFOZ's mission "to provide financial support in the expansion and development of the Zoo." As I am writing this the construction of the Mission Madagascar exhibit continues which will hopefully open to the public in June.

Summer hours will begin on May 29<sup>th</sup> with extended hours on Sunday and Wednesday evenings until 8pm. The Docents will also be in the Zoo on Sunday afternoons beginning April 3 from 1-2:30pm with educational artifacts, if the weather permits.

June is Zoo Month and we hope you will join us for the fun:

Stroll & Show will be held on June 3, beginning at 7pm. This year the movie will be the recently released Alvin and the Chipmunks. This event is open to the public and is free of charge. Bring the whole family along with your lawn chairs, blankets and sleeping bags as we camp out for an evening on the Zoo Education Center lawn for this light-hearted movie. This event would not be possible without our community partners, U.S. Cellular, Flinthill's Optimist Club, Country Mart North, Bluestem Farm & Ranch Supply and Dave's Pumping Service.

On June 26, The Emporia Friends of the Zoo will host their Annual Open House from 1-3pm. Join us for hotdogs, popcorn, balloons and an opportunity to go behind the scenes to view animals that are not displayed in the Zoo. We will relay further details as the date nears.

Final thoughts.....as summer draws near, please plan to visit the Zoo and take advantage of one of the *most beautiful* places Emporia has to offer.

Until Next Time.....

---Lisa Keith

## *Donations have been received in Memory of.....*

*(established since last newsletter)*

### 2015

Richard E. Krueger  
Donna Marie Taylor  
Elizabeth Ann Williard  
Donna F. Lewis  
Glenda J. (Wilson) Bechar

### 2016

Carolyn J. Williams  
Sandee K. Robertson  
Barbara Ann Davis  
DeLores C. Johnson  
Clifford Ray Sull  
Neta C. Guthrie  
Rick Robertson  
Richard M. Schlup Sr.

Sharon Sparks  
Rubye Cathryn Buster  
Bob McNeese  
Jean Ann Wright  
Theresa Coble  
Bernadette C. Hamman  
Jim Kewley

### EFOZ Board of Directors

Duane Henrikson, <i>Pres.</i>	Lacie Hamlin
Rick Mitchell, <i>V. Pres.</i>	Erren Harter
Cynthia Kraft, <i>Sec.</i>	Joe Michaels
Bobby Thompson, <i>Treas.</i>	Janel Wiederholt
Brenton Bennett	Rex Williams
Janel Burenheide	Margaret Wright

### David Traylor Zoo staff

Lisa Keith, Director  
Elizabeth Brannan  
Jan Schoenberger, Pam Stithem  
Miranda Admire, Hailey Foster  
Mallen Trull, Braden Weber  
Colleen Mitchell

### Park & Office staff

Damon Adkins	Mark Lee
Brian Ray	Josh Nelson
Jerry Tucker	Steve Mayer
Jake Ewing	Lori Edie
Aaron Haflich	Gary Crumb
	Marcus Portofee
Lori Andrews	Lori Heavener

## DOCENT NEWS

Spring is a magical time of year and it has felt like it was here before the calendar said it was official. Soon the trees will show signs and flowers will again color our yards. And migrating birds will be pairing up and coming through. Last fall you were invited to save some space for wildlife in your yard, now it's time to welcome life back from its winter hiatus. Why not begin with a nest box, AKA birdhouse? There are several reasons why birds need nest boxes, but generally speaking, there are not enough hollows in dead trees, cracks in old buildings and other natural cavities to go around. Old trees are often cut down to make room for new growth and old buildings are being renovated. Nest boxes help a range of birds find suitable housing in which to rear their young and opportunities to view our feathered friends at work. Time is running out, Cornell Lab of Ornithology reports our best time is mid-to-late March. Find out about birdhouses, migrating bird species, their ranges, and known nesting periods at [Nestwatch.org](http://Nestwatch.org). Maybe the American Kestrel, a species in decline throughout the US except in the southeast, will call your nest box home.

Zoo Docents have not been away for the winter or hibernating, we have hosted several birthday parties, kicked off a zoology unit with Turning Point students and took ambassador animals to many places including Maynard Early Childhood Center, the mall, and met Girl Scouts at the Bowyer Building since the beginning of the New Year. Our Kansas animals were in demand during the month of January. We enjoyed spending Kansas Day with Chase County Elementary students where delicious cookies were served, music warmed the halls and our state animals, Barred Tiger Salamander and the Ornate Box Turtle greeted inquisitive students. Again, we were part of Enhancing Futures at ESU where middle school girls were the audience and finding about the world beyond middle school the theme. Learning how their interests can drive their choices made talking about animals and zoo careers easy. Read Across America was a new request for us, Dr. Seuss's *If I Ran the Zoo* was a featured book at William Allen White Elementary and Neosho Rapids Elementary too. What if young Gerald McGrew said, the David Traylor Zoo of Emporia is a pretty good zoo, and the fellow who runs it seems proud of it too! But if Gerald ran our zoo, what would he do? Our Royal Ball Python and Blue-tongued Skink made it easy to explain why opening the pens and unlocking the cages is not a good idea and why going to exotic places searching nooks and crannies to capture animals isn't the way we acquire our animals.



March 13<sup>th</sup> welcomed our Spring Forward event and kicked off our Spring Break classroom activities that focused on amphibians and their plight. We're gearing up for Docent in the Zoo where visitors will find a docent each Sunday in April through June from 1-2:30 pm and the ZEC will be open too. There's always something to do at the Zoo! Come enjoy spring—the flowers are already beginning to bloom, prairie dogs look especially fat and Mission Madagascar is almost complete—you might be surprised at what spring brings.



---Colleen Mitchell, Education Coordinator

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## Sundays in April, May and June 1-2:30pm - Docent in the Zoo

April 24	1-3pm	Party for the Planet
May 7	10-11am	Kidzoocation
June 3	7pm	Stroll & Show
June 26	1-3pm	Open House
July 11-15	9am-noon	Zoo Camp
August 20	10-11am	Kidzoocation
October 31	4-5:30pm	Boo In The Zoo
Nov 19	10-11am	Kidzoocation
November 22	5pm	Happy Holiday

### REGISTRATION for KIDZOOCATION - May 7 10-11am - Fee: \$5 / discounted for EFOZ members \$3

(mail with fee to Emporia Zoo Docents / PO Box 345 / Emporia, KS 66801)

Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

#### Waiver Statement

*The undersigned, as parent or legal guardian of the registered participant states that he/she understands that the Emporia Friends of the Zoo, the City of Emporia, and the Emporia Zoo Docents are not and shall not be responsible or liable for any illness, injury to person or damage to property resulting from the Kidzoocation Activity, and the undersigned, on behalf of themselves, their heirs, executors and administrators, and the registered participant and their heirs, executors and administrators, do hereby remise, release and forever discharge the City of Emporia, Emporia Friends of the Zoo and the Emporia Zoo Docents from all claims, demands, actions or causes of action on account of any injury or illness to the participant or damage to property resulting from or during the Kidzoocation Activity and the attendance thereat, and does further waive any claim resulting from any photograph, photographic likeness or video tape taken of the participant while attending and participating in the Kidzoocation Activity and does further authorize the use of such photograph, photographic likeness or video tape by and as deemed appropriate by the Emporia Friends of the Zoo and the Emporia Zoo Docents.*

Signature of Authorized Parent or Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

One adult for every two children please. For the safety & enjoyment of all participants, please do not bring younger siblings that are not registered

### ZOO CAMP 2016 - Endangered Species

**July 11-15 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**

**David Traylor Zoo (meet at concession stand unless otherwise noted)**

**For children who have completed 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade**

*camp is filled on a first-come / first-served basis*

please call 341-4365 if you have any questions

**Please return the registration form and fee to:**

**Emporia Zoo Docents  
PO Box 345  
Emporia KS 66801-0345**

### ZOO CAMP REGISTRATION FORM (PLEASE PRINT)

Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Finished \_\_\_\_\_ (3rd/4th) Sex \_\_\_\_\_ (M/ F)

T-Shirt Size: **Youth** \_\_\_\_\_ (M/ L) **Adult** \_\_\_\_\_ (S /M/ L) Fee enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ **\$35** EFOZ member/**\$45** non-member  
 make payable to Emporia Zoo Docents  
 Memberships are available at the Zoo office

#### WAIVER STATEMENT

*The undersigned, as parent or legal guardian of the registered participant states that he/she understands that the Emporia Friends of the Zoo, the City of Emporia, and the Emporia Zoo Docents are not and shall not be responsible or liable for any illness, injury to person or damage to property resulting from the Zoo Camp, and the undersigned, on behalf of themselves, their heirs, executors and administrators, and the registered participant and their heirs, executors and administrators, do hereby remise, release and forever discharge the City of Emporia, Emporia Friends of the Zoo and the Emporia Zoo Docents from all claims, demands, actions or causes of action on account of any injury or illness to the participant or damage to property resulting from or during the Zoo Camp and the attendance there at, and does further waive any claim resulting from any photograph, photographic likeness or video tape taken of the participant while attending and participating in the Zoo Camp and does further authorize the use of such photograph, photographic likeness or video tape by and as deemed appropriate by the Emporia Friends of the Zoo and the Emporia Zoo Docents.*

Signature of Authorized Parent or Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_